


FORM PTO-1390 (Modified) (REV 5-93)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER	
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371				016778-0446	
				U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, use 37 C.F.R. 1.51) Unassigned 10/069957	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP00/06149		INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 8 September 2000		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 8 September 1999	
TITLE OF INVENTION PAGING SYSTEM					
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Nami ISOMAE					
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:					
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.			
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.			
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).			
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19 th month from the earliest claimed priority date.			
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)			
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).			
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.			
8.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).			
9.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).			
10.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).			
11.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant claims small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27.			
Items 12. to 17. below concern other document(s) or information included:					
12.	<input type="checkbox"/>	An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.			
13.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.			
14.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A FIRST preliminary amendment.			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.			
15.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A substitute specification.			
16.	<input type="checkbox"/>	A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.			
17.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other items or information: Application Data Sheet (2 pages)			

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.53) Unassigned 10/069957		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP00/06149		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 016778-0446	
18. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:				CALCULATIONS	
Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5): Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....\$890.00					
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482).....\$710.00					
No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2))\$740.00					
Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor International search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$1,040.00					
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4)\$100.00					
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				\$890.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 20 Months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e))					
Claims	Number Filed	Included in Basic Fee	Extra Claims	Rate	
Total Claims	70	-	20	=	50 x \$18.00
Independent Claims	5	-	3	=	2 x \$84.00
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)				\$280.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$1958.00	
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable.				\$0.00	
SUBTOTAL =				\$1958.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing English translation later the 20 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				+	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$1958.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +				\$40.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$1998.00	
				Amount to be:	
				refunded \$	
				charged \$	
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$1998.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.					
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>19-0741</u> in the amount of \$0.00 to the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>19-0741</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:					
Foley & Lardner Customer Number: 22428			SIGNATURE <u>Phillip J. Articola</u>		
			NAME <u>Phillip J. Articola</u>		
22428			for <u>DAVID A. BLUMENTHAL</u>		
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE			REGISTRATION NUMBER 26,257 Reg. No. 38,819		

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DESCRIPTION

PAGING SYSTEM

Technical Field

The present invention relates to radio network controllers, and paging systems and paging methods using the same, and particularly relates to a radio network controller that performs a simultaneous call for finding the location of a mobile station from base stations according to the paging procedure of the RANAP (Radio Access Network Application Part) protocol, and a paging system and a paging method using the same.

Background Art

Generally, the paging procedure of the RANAP protocol is performed as follows. That is, when a paging command is transmitted from a core network (CN) including a mobile switching center (MSC) to a radio network controller (RNC), the radio network controller, in response to the command, performs a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station. In this case, if the range of common ID, that is, the number of mobile stations which the system accommodates, is large, a large amount of processes is incurred at the radio network controller. For this reason, reduction of the amount of processes has been a concern for years.

Accordingly, a method is considered in which the amount of processes is reduced by improving the process of searching for connections based on the RRC (Radio Resource Control) protocol (hereinafter referred to as "RRC connection"), which is performed based on the common ID at each time of paging. The common ID is

identification information for identifying a mobile station.

An example of the common ID is IMSI (International Mobile Subscriber Identifier). IMSI is four bytes in length and therefore has a maximum value of 2^{32} (approximately 4.3×10^9). Thus, searching IMSI at each time of paging incurs a considerably large load.

Fig. 1 shows a conventional paging message (paging message from a core network to a radio network controller, hereinafter referred to as "paging message (core to base)"). According to the conventional paging procedure, upon receiving a paging message (core to base), the radio network controller transmits the paging message via a radio paging control channel (PCCH) or a dedicated control channel (DCCH).

In this case, in order to determine whether to use the radio paging control channel or the dedicated control channel for transmission, the radio network controller searches whether an RRC connection has already been established for a targeted receiving mobile station using a common ID in the message as a key. A paging message (paging message from the radio network controller to the mobile station, hereinafter referred to as "paging message (base to mobile)") is transmitted via the paging control channel if an RRC connection has not been established and via the dedicated control channel if an RRC connection has been established. This is because although the paging message (base to mobile) is transmitted via the radio paging control channel to a mobile station that is not busy in a communication, a mobile station that is busy in a communication does not allow the message to be received via the paging control channel and thus the paging message (base to mobile) must be transmitted via the dedicated control channel using an RRC connection that has already been established.

Next, the above paging processing will be described with further

reference to Figs. 2 and 3.

Fig. 2 is a diagram showing a paging sequence by which a paging processing is performed to simultaneously call a mobile station 300 from a core network 100 via a radio network controller 200. Referring to the figure, it is to be assumed that the core network 100 includes a mobile switching center that is not shown, and a connection is set up between the mobile switching center and the radio network controller 200 by the SCCP (Signalling Connection Control Part) protocol. The radio network controller 200 controls base stations that are not shown, and a connection is set up between the base stations and the mobile station 300 based on the RRC protocol.

Referring to the figure, a paging message (core to base) 11 of the RANAP protocol is transmitted from the core network 100 to the radio network controller 200 by the connectionless SCCP protocol. It is to be assumed that the paging message (core to base) 11 includes a common ID for identifying a mobile station.

The radio network controller 200 searches whether an RRC connection has already been set up for the mobile station 300 designated by a common ID information element in the paging message (core to base) 11. In this case, the search is performed using a table shown in Fig. 3, that is, a table indicative of associations between common IDs and RRC connections (step 21 in Fig. 2).

Referring now to Fig. 3, for example, if the common ID = 0x11110000, "RRC connection is absent" and "search fails" (indicated by a x mark), and a paging 1 message (base to mobile) 12 of the RRC protocol is transmitted to the mobile station 300 via the paging control channel PCCH. Hereinafter, the paging 1 message (base to mobile) transmitted via the paging control channel PCCH will be referred to as "paging 1 message (PCCH)." If the common ID = 0x11110001, "RRC

connection is present" and "search succeeds" (indicated by a circle mark). It is to be assumed that if "search succeeds," information indicating which RRC connection is relevant is written in the table (not shown). A paging 2 message (base to mobile) 13 is transmitted using a dedicated control channel DCCH identified by the search result. Hereinafter, the paging 2 message (base to mobile) transmitted via the dedicated control channel DCCH will be referred to as "paging 2 message (DCCH)."

Next, the core network 100 will be described. The radio network controller 200 can be connected to two types of core network as follows:

(1) Separated Core Network

Nodes with packet service function and nodes with circuit service function are physically separated.

(2) Combined Core Network

Packet service function and circuit service function are combined within a single node. Furthermore, the combined core networks are divided into two types as follows depending on the presence/absence of co-ordination function:

(2.1) Combined Core Network without Co-ordination Function

Packet service function and circuit service function physically reside within a single node. However, the functions operate individually.

(2.2) Combined Core Network with Co-ordination Function

Packet service function and circuit service function are co-ordinated.

The combined core network with co-ordination function is capable of recognizing whether a mobile station that is targeted by a paging request already has an RRC connection. For example, when a request for receiving a circuit switched call is issued to a mobile station, within the core network, a circuit service function unit is capable of querying a

packet service function unit as to whether a packet call is currently established. It is determined that an RRC connection has been established if a packet call has already been established and that an RRC connection has not been established if a packet call has not been established.

As shown in Fig. 4, SCCP resides in a layer above MTP (Message Transfer Part) and below RANAP. SCCP services are either "connectionless," in which a connection is not set up and a communication is performed on a one-time basis, or "connection oriented," in which a connection is set up in advance and a communication is performed using the connection that has been set up.

In the paging sequence described above, even if the core network determines "RRC connection is present," no means are provided to transmit it to the radio network controller. Accordingly, the radio network controller performs a search using the common ID unconditionally in response to a paging request. Thus, the paging procedure at the radio network controller suffers from the drawback that a large amount of processes is incurred in order to search for the common ID.

Prior arts related to the present invention are known. For example, Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication Tokkai No. Hei 1-316050 achieves, by improving an application for a switch, a connection method with immediacy for a connection between a calling subscriber and a receiving subscriber who is called. However, the publication only discloses technical ideas regarding a system for calling a receiving subscriber with a pager, and is completely different from the present invention, which relates to a simultaneous call for finding the location of a mobile station from base stations.

Also, Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication Tokkai No. Hei 9-168053 discloses a method for communicating maintenance information

to a remote apparatus including a remote processor and a pager circuit. However, the publication is also completely different from the present invention, which relates to a simultaneous call for finding the location of a mobile station from base stations.

The present invention has been made in order to overcome the drawback of the conventional art described above, and an object thereof is to provide a radio network controller that serves to reduce the amount of processes for searching for a common ID in a paging procedure, and a paging system and a paging method using the same.

Disclosure of Invention

A radio network controller according to the present invention is a radio network controller in a paging system that performs a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station in response to a paging command from a core network, wherein a flag indicating whether or not a mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service is added to said paging command, and said radio network controller comprises determination means for determining whether or not said flag indicates that said co-ordinating function is present; and paging processing means for performing said paging processing using one of a paging control channel and a dedicated control channel depending on the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller if said flag is determined as indicating the presence of said co-ordinating function. In performing said paging processing, said paging control channel is used if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless, and said dedicated control channel is used if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connection

oriented. Said paging command may further include a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing is performed using the dedicated control channel by identifying the connection by said connection ID.

Furthermore, a paging system according to the present invention is a paging system that performs a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station from a radio network controller in response to a paging command from a core network, wherein said radio network controller comprises paging processing means for performing said paging processing using one of a paging control channel and a dedicated control channel depending on whether or not a mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service. If the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service, a search for a common ID is not required at said radio network controller. Thus, said radio network controller serves to reduce the amount of processes for searching for a common ID in a paging procedure.

Furthermore, a paging method according to the present invention is a paging method that performs a paging process ing for simultaneously calling a mobile station from a radio network controller in response to a paging command from a core network, wherein said method comprises a paging processing step of performing, in said radio network controller, said paging processing using one of a paging control channel and a dedicated control channel depending on whether or not a mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service.

In sum, the present invention provides means for reducing the

amount of processes for searching for a common ID in a paging procedure at a radio network controller. For the purpose of the reduction in the amount of the processes, the present invention provides two types of paging message of the RANAP protocol, as will be described later. By providing the two types of paging message, unnecessary processes for searching for a common ID is saved at the radio network controller.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing a conventional paging message (core to base). Fig. 2 is a diagram showing a paging sequence in a conventional paging system. Fig. 3 is a diagram showing a table indicative of associations between common IDs and RRC connections. Fig. 4 is a diagram showing the relationship between SCCP and other layers. Fig. 5 is a diagram showing the contents of a paging 1 message (core to base) in a paging system according to a first embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 6 is a diagram showing the contents of a paging 2 message (core to base) in the paging system according to the first embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 7 is a diagram showing a paging 1 sequence in the paging system according to the first embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 8 is a diagram showing a paging sequence from a combined core network. Fig. 9 is a diagram showing a paging 1 sequence in the paging system according to the first embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 10 is a diagram showing a paging sequence from a combined core network. Fig. 11 is a diagram showing a paging 2 sequence in the paging system according to the first embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 12 is a diagram showing a paging 2' sequence (core to base) in a paging system according to a second embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 13 is a diagram

showing a paging sequence from a combined core network. Fig. 14 is a diagram showing a paging 2' sequence in the paging system according to the second embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 15 is a diagram showing connections among a mobile switching center included in a core network, radio network controllers, and base stations. Fig. 16 is a diagram showing the contents of a paging 1' message (core to base) in a paging system according to a third embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 17 is a diagram showing the contents of a paging 2 message (core to base) in the paging system according to the third embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 18 is a diagram showing a paging 1 sequence in the paging system according to the third embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 19 is a diagram showing a paging sequence from a combined core network. Fig. 20 is a diagram showing a paging 1 sequence in the paging system according to the third embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 21 is a diagram showing a paging sequence from a combined core network. Fig. 22 is a diagram showing a paging 2 sequence in the paging system according to the third embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 23 is a diagram showing a paging sequence for explaining an embodiment relating to a case where an RRC connection has already been established for a destination mobile station. Fig. 24 is a diagram showing a paging 2' sequence (core to base) in a paging system according to a fourth embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 25 is a diagram showing a paging sequence from a combined core network. Fig. 26 is a diagram showing a paging 2' sequence in the paging system according to the fourth embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 27 is a diagram showing the operations of the paging systems according to the third and the fourth embodiments of the present invention. Fig. 28 is a diagram showing connections among a mobile switching center included in a

core network, radio network controllers, and base stations.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

For more detailed description, the present invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings. In the drawings to be referenced in the following description, parts that are equivalent to those in other drawings are designated by the same symbols.

In a paging system according to a first embodiment of the present invention, two types of message, namely, paging 1 message (core to base) and paging 2 message (core to base), are used as paging messages (core to base) of the RANAP protocol. Fig. 5 shows the configuration of a paging 1 message (core to base), and Fig. 6 shows the configuration of a paging 2 message (core to base), respectively.

In the paging 1 message (core to base) shown in Fig. 5, a "co-ordination function presence/absence flag" is added to the information elements of the paging message shown in Fig. 1. The co-ordination function presence/absence flag indicates whether or not the mobile switching center of the core network has the function of co-ordinating packet service and circuit service.

The paging 2 message (core to base) shown in Fig. 6 is a new message that is completely different from the paging message (core to base) shown in Fig. 1. The paging 2 message (core to base) does not have any information element.

A separated core network and a combined core network without co-ordination function use only the paging 1 message (core to base) (Fig. 5). A core network with co-ordination function uses both the paging 1 message (core to base) (Fig. 5) and the paging 2 message (core to base) (Fig. 6).

More specifically, the paging 1 message (core to base) (Fig. 5) is used when the first paging (an RRC connection has not been established for the mobile station) is reliably assumed or when a possibility for the first paging exists. On the other hand, the paging 2 message (core to base) (Fig. 6) is used when the second or a subsequent paging (an RRC connection has been established for the mobile station) is reliably assumed.

First, a paging processing from a core network 400 without co-ordination function will be described with reference to Fig. 7. In the figure, parts that are equivalent to those in Fig. 2 are designated by the same symbols.

Fig. 7 shows the operations of the core network 400, the radio network controller 200, and the mobile station 300, and messages exchanged.

The core network 400 without co-ordination function transmits a paging 1 message (core to base) 14 (Fig. 5) to the radio network controller 200. At this time, the co-ordination function presence/absence flag in the paging 1 message (core to base) 14 is set to "OFF."

Upon receiving the paging 1 message (core to base) 14, the radio network controller 200 checks the co-ordination function presence/absence flag in the message (step 22 in Fig. 7). Inasmuch as the co-ordination function presence/absence flag is "OFF," a next common ID is searched for and checked (step 21 in Fig. 7). The subsequent sequence is similar as that in the conventional system. In this case, the presence/absence of an RRC connection is determined based on the table shown in Fig. 3, that is, the table indicative of associations between common IDs and RRC connections, so that a paging 1 message (PCCH) 12 or a paging 2 message (DCCH) 13 of the

RRC protocol is transmitted to the mobile station 300.

Next, a paging processing from a core network with co-ordination function will be described with reference to Figs. 8 to 11. First, a case where an RRC connection has not been established for a destination mobile station, that is, a case of the first paging message, will be described with reference to Figs. 8 and 9.

Fig. 8 shows an example in which a circuit switched call to a mobile station 34 that is not busy in a communication is received. When a circuit switched call is received at a mobile switching center 30 included in a core network 500 (Fig. 9), a circuit service function unit 32 transmits a query 42 as to "whether or not the destination mobile station is busy in a communication" to a packet service function unit 31. Then, the circuit service function unit 32 receives a reply 43 to the effect that "the mobile station 34 is not busy in a communication" from the packet service function unit 31 and recognizes the first paging.

The circuit service function unit 32 prepares a paging 1 message (core to base), sets the co-ordination function presence/absence flag "ON" to indicate that a search has already been performed, and transmits the paging 1 message (core to base) 44 (Fig. 5) to a radio network controller 33 by connectionless SCCP. Fig. 9 shows the operation of the radio network controller that has received the paging 1 message (core to base) 44.

Referring to Fig. 9, upon receiving the paging 1 message (core to base) 15 (Fig. 5) from the core network 500, the radio network controller 200 checks the value of the co-ordination function presence/absence flag in the message (step 22 in Fig. 9). Inasmuch as the co-ordination function presence/absence flag is "ON," the process of searching for the common ID is skipped, and a paging 1 message (PCCH) 12 of the RRC protocol is transmitted to the mobile station 300 via a paging control

channel. Referring back to Fig. 8, the paging 1 message (PCCH) 45 (12 in Fig. 7) has been transmitted from the radio network controller 33 to the mobile station 34.

Next, a case where an RRC connection has already been established for a destination mobile station will be described with reference to Figs. 10 and 11.

Fig. 10 shows an example in which a circuit switched call to a mobile station 54 that is busy in a packet service communication is received. When a circuit switched call 61 is received at a mobile switching center 50 included in the core network 500 (Fig. 11), a circuit service function unit 52 transmits a query 62 as to "whether or not the destination mobile station is busy in a communication" to a packet service function unit 51. Then, the circuit service function unit 52 receives a reply 63 to the effect that "the mobile station 54 is busy in a communication" and recognizes that the mobile station 54 has already established an RRC connection. The circuit service function unit 52 prepares a paging 2 message (core to base) (Fig. 6), and transmits the paging 2 message (core to base) 64 (Fig. 6) to a radio network controller 53 in a connection oriented manner with reference to the SCCP connection that has already been established for a packet call between the mobile switching center 50 and the radio network controller 53. Fig. 11 shows the operation of the radio network controller that has received the paging 2 message (core to base) 64.

Referring to Fig. 11, upon receiving the paging 2 message (core to base) 16 (Fig. 6) from the core network 500, the radio network controller 200 identifies the RRC connection for the mobile station 300 from the SCCP connection between the core network 500 and the radio network controller 200 (step 23 in Fig. 11). Then, the radio network controller 200 transmits a paging 2 message (DCCH) 13 of the RRC protocol that

has been identified for the mobile station 300 via a dedicated control channel DCCH.

Referring back to Fig. 10, the paging 2 message (DCCH) 65 (13 in Fig. 9) has been transmitted from the radio network controller 53 to the mobile station 54. A response 66 from the mobile station 54 may be returned either using the SCCP connection 67 for a packet call between the mobile switching center 50 and the radio network controller 53 or by a new SCCP connection establishing request 68 for a circuit switched call between the mobile switching center 50 and the radio network controller 53.

As described above, two types of paging message (core to base) with respect to the co-ordination function of core networks are newly provided so that means are provided for transmitting information recognized by a core network to a radio network controller, allowing the radio network controller to determine whether or not a search for a common ID is required based on the information. Accordingly, the amount of processes for searching for a common ID in a paging procedure at the radio network controller is reduced.

Next, a second embodiment of the present invention will be described with reference to Figs. 12 to 14.

Fig. 12 shows the configuration of a paging 2' message (core to base) according to the second embodiment of the paging 2 message (core to base). As opposed to the message shown in Fig. 6, the message is transmitted by connectionless SCCP and a connection ID is added to the information elements.

Fig. 13 shows an example in which a circuit switched call to a mobile station 74 that is busy in a packet service communication is received. When a circuit switched call 81 is received at a mobile switching center 70 included in a core network, a circuit service function

unit 72 transmits a query 82 as to "whether or not the destination mobile station is busy in a communication" to a packet service function unit 71. Then, the circuit service function unit 72 receives a reply 83 to the effect that "the mobile station 74 is busy in a communication" from the packet service function unit 71 and recognizes that the mobile station 74 has already established an RRC connection. The circuit service function unit 72 sets a connection ID indicating an SCCP connection that has been established for a packet call between the mobile switching center 70 and a radio network controller 73 in a paging 2' message (core to base) (Fig. 12), and transmits the paging 2' message (core to base) 84 (Fig. 12) in a connectionless manner.

Fig. 14 shows the operation of the radio network controller that has received the paging 2' message (core to base) 84. Referring to Fig. 14, upon receiving the paging 2' message (core to base) 17 (Fig. 12) from the core network 500, the radio network controller 200 identifies the RRC connection for the mobile station 300 from the connection ID in the message (step 24 in Fig. 14), and transmits a paging 2 message (DCCH) 13 of the RRC protocol to the mobile station 300 via a dedicated control channel DCCH. Referring back to Fig. 13, the paging 2 message (DCCH) 85 (13 in Fig. 14) has been transmitted from the radio network controller 73 to the mobile station 74.

As described above, also in this embodiment, two types of paging message (core to base) are provided so that information recognized by a core network is transmitted to a radio network controller, allowing the radio network controller to determine whether or not a search for a common ID is required based on the information. Accordingly, the amount of processes for searching for a common ID in a paging procedure at the radio network controller is reduced.

As shown in Fig. 15, it is assumed that a plurality of radio network

controllers 200, 201, ... are connected to a mobile switching center 450 included in a core network and that base stations 250 are connected to each of the radio network controllers 200. In this state, by employing this system, the amount of processes for searching for the common ID of the mobile station 300 is reduced in the paging procedure at each of the radio network controllers 200, as described above.

Furthermore, referring to the figure, when a paging request arrives at the mobile switching center 450, if the paging area spans across the radio network controller 200 and the radio network controller 201, the mobile switching center 450 transmits paging messages (core to base) to the radio network controller 200 and the radio network controller 201, necessitating searching processing at both of the radio network controllers. However, by employing this system, the connection with the mobile station 300 can be identified as residing at the radio network controller 200, and thus no paging message (core to base) is transmitted to the radio network controller 201. That is, transmission of a useless paging message (core to base) to the radio network controller 201 is prevented. Accordingly, only the radio network controller associated with the connection is required to search for the common ID, and the other radio network controllers are not required to execute useless processes, serving to avoid occurrence of congestion.

In a paging system according to a third embodiment of the present invention, two types of messages, namely, paging 1' message (core to base) and paging 2 message (core to base), are used as paging messages (core to base) of the RANAP protocol. Fig. 16 shows the configuration of the paging 1' message (core to base), and Fig. 17 shows the configuration of the paging 2 message (core to base), respectively.

In the paging 1' message (core to base) shown in Fig. 16, a

"search-not-required flag" is added to the information elements of the paging message shown in Fig. 1. The search-not-required flag is a flag for notifying a radio network controller from a core network of whether or not it is required to search whether or not an RRC connection for a mobile station has been established at the radio network controller.

The paging 2 message (core to base) shown in Fig. 17 is the same message as the one shown in Fig. 6, and is a new message that is completely different from the paging message (core to base) shown in Fig. 1. The paging 2 message (core to base) does not have any information element.

A separated core network and a combined core network without co-ordination function use only the paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16). A combined core network with co-ordination function uses either both the paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16) and the paging 2 message (core to base) (Fig. 17) or only the paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16).

More specifically, the paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16) is used when the first paging (an RRC connection has not been established for the mobile station) is reliably assumed or when a possibility of the first paging exists. On the other hand, the paging 2 message (core to base) (Fig. 17) is used when the second or a subsequent paging (an RRC connection has been established for the mobile station) is reliably assumed.

First, a paging processing from a core network without co-ordination function will be described with reference to Fig. 18. In the figure, parts that are equivalent to those in Fig. 2 are designated by the same symbols.

Fig. 18 shows the operations of a core network 400, a radio network controller 200, a mobile station 300, and messages exchanged.

The core network 400 without co-ordination function transmits a paging 1' message (core to base) 14' (Fig. 16) to the radio network controller 200 in a connectionless manner. At this time, the search-not-required flag in the paging 1' message (core to base) 14' is set to "OFF."

Upon receiving the paging 1' message (core to base) 14', the radio network controller 200 checks the search-not-required flag in the message (step 22' in Fig. 18). Inasmuch as the search-not-required flag is "OFF," a next common ID is searched for and checked (step 21 in Fig. 18). The subsequent sequence is similar as that in the conventional system. In this case, the presence/absence of an RRC connection is determined based on the table shown in Fig. 3, that is, the table indicative of associations between common IDs and RRC connections, and a paging 1 message (PCCH) 12 or a paging 2 message (DCCH) 13 of the RRC protocol is transmitted to the mobile station 300.

Next, a paging processing from a core network with co-ordination function will be described with reference to Figs. 19 to 22. First, a case where an RRC connection has not been established for a destination mobile station, that is, a case of the first paging message, will be described with reference to Figs. 19 and 20.

Fig. 19 shows an example in which a circuit switched call to a mobile station 34 that is not busy in a communication is received. When a circuit switched call is received at a mobile switching center 30 included in a core network 400 (Fig. 18), a circuit service function unit 32 transmits a query 42 as to "whether or not the destination mobile station is busy in a communication" to a packet service function unit 31. Then, the circuit service function unit 32 receives a reply 43 to the effect that "the mobile station 34 is not busy in a communication" from the packet service function unit 31 and recognizes the first paging.

The circuit service function unit 32 prepares a paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16), sets the search-not-required flag "ON" to indicate that "a search has already been performed" and that "an RRC connection has not been established for the mobile station 34", and transmits the paging 1' message (core to base) 44' (Fig. 16) to the radio network controller 33 by connectionless SCCP. Fig. 20 shows the operation of the radio network controller that has received the paging 1' message (core to base) 44'.

Referring to Fig. 20, upon receiving the paging 1' message (core to base) 15' (Fig. 16) from the core network 500, the radio network controller 200 checks the value of the search-not-required flag in the message (step 22' in Fig. 20). Inasmuch as the search-not-required flag is "ON," the processing of searching for the common ID is skipped, and a paging 1 message (PCCH) 12 of the RRC protocol is transmitted to the mobile station 300 via a paging control channel. Referring back to Fig. 19, the paging 1 message (PCCH) 45 (12 in Fig. 20) has been transmitted from the radio network controller 33 to the mobile station 34.

That is, if the message received from the core network 500 is a paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16) and if the search-not-required flag is "ON," the radio network controller 200 determines that an RRC connection has not been established for the mobile station 300 (connectionless). Thus, a search for the common ID is not required.

Next, a case where an RRC connection has already been established for a destination mobile station will be described with reference to Figs. 21 and 22.

Fig. 21 shows an example in which a circuit switched call to a mobile station 54 that is busy in a packet service communication is received. When a circuit switched call 61 is received at a mobile switching center 50 included in a core network 500 (Fig. 22), a circuit

service function unit 52 transmits a query 62 as to "whether or not the destination mobile station is busy in a communication" to a packet service function unit 51. Then, the circuit service function unit 52 receives a reply 63 to the effect that "the mobile station 54 is busy in a communication" and recognizes that the mobile station 54 has already established an RRC connection. The circuit service function unit 52 prepares a paging 2 message (core to base) (Fig. 17), and transmits the paging 2 message (core to base) 64 (Fig. 17) to a radio network controller 53 in a connection oriented manner with reference to an SCCP connection that has already been established for a packet call between the mobile switching center 50 and the radio network controller 53. Fig. 22 shows the operation of the radio network controller that has received the paging 2 message (core to base) 64.

Referring to Fig. 22, upon receiving the paging 2 message (core to base) 16 (Fig. 17) from the core network 500, the radio network controller 200 identifies which of a plurality of RRC connections is the RRC connection for the mobile station 300 based on the SCCP connection between the core network 500 and the radio network controller 200 (step 23 in Fig. 22). Then, the radio network controller 200 transmits a paging 2 message (DCCH) 13 of the RRC protocol that has been identified to the mobile station 300 via a dedicated control channel DCCH.

Referring back to Fig. 21, the paging 2 message (DCCH) 65 (13 in Fig. 22) has been transmitted from the radio network controller 53 to the mobile station 54. A response 66 from the mobile station 54 may be returned either using the SCCP connection 67 for a packet call between the mobile switching center 50 and the radio network controller 53 or by a new SCCP connection establishing request 68 for a circuit switched call between the mobile switching center 50 and the radio network

controller 53.

That is, if the message received from the core network 500 is a paging 2 message (core to base) (Fig. 17), the radio network controller 200 determines that an RRC connection has been established for the mobile station 300 (connection oriented). Thus, a search for the common ID is not required. Furthermore, in this case, checking of the search-not-required flag is not required either.

As described above, two types of paging message (core to base) with respect to the co-ordination function of core networks are newly provided so that means are provided for transmitting information recognized by a core networks to a radio network controller, allowing the radio network controller to determine whether or not a search for a common ID is required based on the information. Accordingly, the amount of processes for searching for a common ID in a paging procedure at the radio network controller is reduced.

Next, another embodiment of a case where an RRC connection has already been established for a destination mobile station will be described with reference to Figs. 20 and 23. As opposed to the example described above, even if the core network has co-ordination function and if an RRC connection has already been established for a destination mobile station, the paging 2 message (core to base) (Fig. 17) is not used, and the search-not-required flag in the paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16) is set to "OFF," so that the radio network controller searches for the common ID.

Fig. 23 shows an example in which a circuit switched call to a mobile station 54 that is busy in a packet service communication is received. When a circuit switched call 61 is received at a mobile switching center 50 included in a core network 400, a circuit service function unit 52 transmits a query 62 as to "whether or not the

destination mobile station is busy in a communication" to a packet service function unit 51. Then, the circuit service function unit 52 receives a reply 63 to the effect that "the mobile station 54 is busy in a communication" and recognizes that the mobile station 54 has already established an RRC connection. At this time, the circuit service function unit 52 sets the search-not-required flag in the paging 1' message (core to base) 15' (Figs. 20 and 16) to "OFF."

Upon receiving the paging 1' message (core to base) 15' (Fig. 16), the radio network controller 200 checks the search-not-required flag in the message (step 22' in Fig. 20). Inasmuch as the search-not-required flag is "OFF," a next common ID is searched and checked (step 21 in Fig. 20). The subsequent sequence is similar as that in the conventional system. In this case, whether the presence/absence of an RRC connection is determined based on the table shown in Fig. 3, that is, the table indicative of associations between common IDs and RRC connections, and a paging 1 message (PCCH) 12 or a paging 2 message (DCCH) 13 of the RRC protocol is transmitted to the mobile station 300. In this case, inasmuch as an RRC connection has already been set up for the mobile station, the paging 2 message (DCCH) 13 is transmitted to the mobile station 300.

Referring back to Fig. 23, the paging 2 message (DCCH) 65 (13 in Fig. 20) has been transmitted from the radio network controller 53 to the mobile station 54. A response 66 from the mobile station 54 is returned by a new SCCP connection establishing request 68 for a circuit switched call between the mobile switching station 50 and the radio network controller 53.

That is, if the search-not-required flag in the paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16) is "OFF," even if the message received from the core network 500 is a paging 1' message (core to base) (Fig. 16), the

radio network controller 200 determines that an RRC connection has been established for the mobile station 300 and thus searches for the common ID.

Next, a fourth embodiment of the present invention will be described with reference to Figs. 24 to 26.

Fig. 24 shows the configuration of a paging 2' message (core to base) according to the fourth embodiment of the paging 2 message (core to base), which is identical to the message shown in Fig. 12. As opposed to the message described earlier and shown in Fig. 17, the message is transmitted by connectionless SCCP and a connection ID is added to the information elements.

Fig. 25 shows an example in which a circuit switched call to a mobile station 74 that is busy in a packet service communication is received. When a circuit switched call 81 is received at a mobile switching center 70 included in a core network, a circuit service function unit 72 transmits a query 82 as to "whether or not the destination mobile station is busy in a communication" to a packet service function unit 71. Then, the circuit service function unit 72 receives a reply 83 to the effect that "the mobile station 74 is busy in a communication" from the packet service function unit 71 and recognizes that the mobile station 74 has already established an RRC connection. The circuit service function unit 72 sets a connection ID indicating an SCCP connection that has been established for a packet call between the mobile switching center 70 and a radio network controller 73 in a paging 2' message (core to base) (Fig. 24), and transmits the paging 2' message (core to base) 84 (Fig. 24) to the radio network controller 73 in a connectionless manner.

Fig. 26 shows the operation of the radio network controller that has received the paging 2' message (core to base) 84. Referring to Fig. 26, upon receiving the paging 2' message (core to base) 17 (Fig. 24)

from the core network 500, the radio network controller 200 identifies the RRC connection for the mobile station 300 from the connection ID in the message (step 24 in Fig. 26), and transmits a paging 2 message (DCCH) 13 of the RRC protocol via a dedicated control channel DCCH. Referring back to Fig. 25, the paging 2 message (DCCH) 85 (13 in Fig. 26) has been transmitted from the radio network controller 73 to the mobile station 74.

That is, if the message received from the core network 500 is a paging 2' message (core to base) (Fig. 24), the radio network controller 200 determines that an RRC connection has been established for the mobile station 300 similarly to the case of paging 2. Thus, a search for the common ID is not required either in this case. Furthermore, checking of the search-not-required flag is not required either in this case.

As described above, also in this embodiment, two types of paging message (core to base) are provided so that information recognized by a core network is transmitted to a radio network controller, allowing determination as to whether or not a search for a common ID is required based on the information. Accordingly, the amount of processes for searching for a common ID in a paging procedure at the radio network controller is reduced.

The operations described above are summarized in Fig. 27. Fig. 27 is a diagram showing the operations of the paging systems according to the third and the fourth embodiments. Referring to the figure, a search for the common ID is required if the search-not-required flag is "OFF," whereas if the search-not-required flag is "ON" and if the message transmitted from the core network to the radio network controller is paging 1', it is determined that an RRC connection has not been established for the mobile station and thus a search for the

common ID is not required.

In the case of paging 2, it is determined that an RRC connection has been established for the mobile station and thus a search for the common ID is not required either in this case.

Furthermore, in the case of paging 2', similarly to the case of paging 2, it is determined that an RRC connection has been established for the mobile station and thus a search for the common ID is not required.

It is assumed that, as shown in Fig. 28, a plurality of radio network controllers 200, 201, ... is connected to a mobile switching center 450 included in a core network, and base stations 250 are connected to each of the radio network controllers 200. In this state, by employing this system, the amount of processes for searching for the common ID of the mobile station 300 in the paging procedure at each of the radio network controllers 200 is reduced, as described above.

Furthermore, referring to the figure, when a paging request arrives at the mobile switching center 450, if the paging area spans across the radio network controller 200 and the radio network controller 201, the mobile switching center transmits paging messages (core to base) to the radio network controllers 200 and 201, necessitating searching processing at both of the radio network controllers. However, by employing this system, the connection with the mobile station 300 can be identified as residing at the radio network controller 200, and no paging message (core to base) is transmitted to the radio network controller 201. That is, transmission of a useless paging message (core to base) to the radio network controller 201 is prevented. Accordingly, only the radio network controller associated with the connection is required to search for the common ID, and the other radio network controllers are not required to perform useless processes, serving to

CLAIMS

1. A radio network controller (200) in a paging system that performs a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station (300) in response to a paging command (14, 15, 16, or 17) from a core network (400 or 500),

wherein a flag indicating whether or not a mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service is added to said paging command,

and said radio network controller comprises:

determination means (22) for determining whether or not said flag indicates that said co-ordinating function is present; and

paging processing means (12 and 13) for performing said paging processing using one of a paging control channel (PCCH) and a dedicated control channel (DCCH) depending on the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller if said flag is determined as indicating the presence of said co-ordinating function.

2. A radio network controller according to Claim 1,

wherein said paging processing means comprises:

means (12) for performing said paging processing using said paging control channel (PCCH) if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless; and

means (13) for performing said paging processing using said dedicated control channel (DCCH) if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connection oriented.

3. A radio network controller according to Claim 1, wherein said paging command is a paging message of the RANAP protocol.

4. A radio network controller according to Claim 1, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a

connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

5. A radio network controller according to Claim 2, wherein said paging command is a paging message of the RANAP protocol.

6. A radio network controller according to Claim 2, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

7. A radio network controller according to Claim 3, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

8. A radio network controller according to Claim 5, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

9. A paging system that performs a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station (300) from a radio network controller (200) in response to a paging command (14, 15, 16, or 17) from a core network (400 or 500),

wherein a flag indicating whether or not a mobile switching center

of said core network has the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service is added to said paging command,

and said radio network controller comprises:

determination means (22) for determining whether or not said flag indicates that said co-ordinating function is present; and

paging processing means (12 and 13) for performing said paging processing using one of a paging control channel (PCCH) and a dedicated control channel (DCCH) depending on the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller if said flag is determined as indicating the presence of said co-ordinating function.

10. A paging system according to Claim 9,

wherein said paging processing means comprises:

means (12) for performing said paging processing using said paging control channel (PCCH) if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless; and

means (13) for performing said paging processing using said dedicated control channel (DCCH) if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connection oriented.

11. A paging system according to Claim 9, wherein said paging command is a paging message of the RANAP protocol.

12. A paging system according to Claim 9, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

13. A paging system according to Claim 10, wherein said paging command is a paging message of the RANAP protocol.

14. A paging system according to Claim 10, wherein said paging

command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

15. A paging system according to Claim 11, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

16. A paging system according to Claim 13, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

17. A paging method that performs a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station (300) from a radio network controller (200) in response to a paging command (14, 15, 16, or 17) from a core network (400 or 500),

wherein a flag indicating whether or not a mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service is added to said paging command,

and said paging method comprises:

a determination step (22) of determining at said radio network controller whether or not said flag indicates that said co-ordinating function is present; and

a paging processing step (12 and 13) of performing said paging

process at said radio network controller using one of a paging control channel (PCCH) and a dedicated control channel (DCCH) depending on the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller if said flag is determined as indicating the presence of said co-ordinating function.

18. A paging method according to Claim 17, wherein said paging processing step comprises:

a step (12) of performing said paging processing using said paging control channel (PCCH) if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless; and

a step (13) of performing said paging processing using said dedicated control channel (DCCH) if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connection oriented.

19. A paging method according to Claim 17, wherein said paging command is a paging message of the RANAP protocol.

20. A paging method according to Claim 17, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that the step of performing said paging processing identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

21. A paging method according to Claim 18, wherein said paging command is a paging message of the RANAP protocol.

22. A paging method according to Claim 18, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that the step of performing said paging processing identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and

performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

23. A paging method according to Claim 19, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that the step of performing said paging processing identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

24. A paging method according to Claim 21, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that the step of performing said paging processing identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using the dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

25. A paging system that performs a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station (300) from a radio network controller (200) in response to a paging command (14', 15', 16, or 17) from a core network (400 or 500),

wherein said radio network controller comprises paging processing means (22', 21, 12, and 13) for performing said paging processing using one of a paging control channel (PCCH) and a dedicated control channel (DCCH) depending on whether or not a mobile switching center of said core network has the function of coordinating a packet service and a circuit service.

26. A paging system according to Claim 25, wherein said paging processing means searches for said common ID (21) if the mobile switching center of said core network does not have the function of co-

ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

27. A paging system according to Claim 25, wherein said paging processing means performs said paging processing using one of the paging control channel and the dedicated control channel depending on the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

28. A paging system according to Claim 25, wherein said paging command (14' or 15') includes a search-not-required flag indicating whether a search for said common ID is required or not required.

29. A paging system according to Claim 26, wherein said paging command (14' or 15') includes a search-not-required flag indicating whether a search for said common ID is required or not required.

30. A paging system according to Claim 27, wherein said paging command (14' or 15') includes a search-not-required flag indicating whether a search for said common ID is required or not required.

31. A paging system according to Claim 28, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network does not have the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service.

32. A paging system according to Claim 29, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network does not have the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

33. A paging system according to Claim 30, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network does not have the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

34. A paging system according to Claim 28, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "not required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

35. A paging system according to Claim 29, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "not required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

36. A paging system according to Claim 30, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "not required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

37. A paging system according to Claim 34, wherein said paging control channel (PCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates not required.

38. A paging system according to Claim 35, wherein said paging control channel (PCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates not required.

39. A paging system according to Claim 36, wherein said paging control channel (PCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates not required.

40. A paging system according to Claim 28, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

41. A paging system according to Claim 29, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

42. A paging system according to Claim 30, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

43. A paging system according to Claim 40, wherein one of said paging control channel (PCCH) and said dedicated control channel (DCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates required.

44. A paging system according to Claim 41, wherein one of said paging control channel (PCCH) and said dedicated control channel (DCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates required.

45. A paging system according to Claim 42, wherein one of said paging control channel (PCCH) and said dedicated control channel (DCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates required.

46. A paging system according to Claim 27, wherein said dedicated control channel (DCCH) is used in said paging processing if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connection oriented.

47. A paging system according to Claim 27, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station

that is in a communication, so that said paging processing means identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using said dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

48. A paging method that performs a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station (300) from a radio network controller (200) in response to a paging command (14', 15', 16, or 17) from a core network (400 or 500),

wherein said paging method comprises a paging processing step (22', 21, 12, and 13) of performing, in said radio network controller, said paging processing using one of a paging control channel (PCCH) and a dedicated control channel (DCCH) depending on whether a mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating a packet service and a circuit service.

49. A paging method according to Claim 48, wherein said paging processing step searches for said common ID (21) if the mobile switching center of said core network does not have the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

50. A paging method according to Claim 48, wherein said paging processing step performs said paging processing using one of the paging control channel and the dedicated control channel (12 and 13) depending on the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

51. A paging method according to Claim 48, wherein said paging command (14' or 15') includes a search-not-required flag indicating whether a search for said common ID is required or not required.

52. A paging method according to Claim 49, wherein said paging command (14' or 15') includes a search-not-required flag indicating

whether a search for said common ID is required or not required.

53. A paging method according to Claim 50, wherein said paging command (14' or 15') includes a search-not-required flag indicating whether a search for said common ID is required or not required.

54. A paging method according to Claim 51, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network does not have the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

55. A paging method according to Claim 52, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network does not have the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

56. A paging method according to Claim 53, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network does not have the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service.

57. A paging method according to Claim 51, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "not required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

58. A paging method according to Claim 52, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "not required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

59. A paging method according to Claim 53, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "not required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service

and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

60. A paging method according to Claim 57, wherein said paging control channel (PCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates not required.

61. A paging method according to Claim 58, wherein said paging control channel (PCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates not required.

62. A paging method according to Claim 59, wherein said paging control channel (PCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates not required.

63. A paging method according to Claim 51, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

64. A paging method according to Claim 52, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

65. A paging method according to Claim 53, wherein said search-not-required flag is set to "required" if the mobile switching center of said core network has the function of co-ordinating the packet service and the circuit service and if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connectionless.

66. A paging method according to Claim 63, wherein one of said paging control channel (PCCH) and said dedicated control channel (DCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required

flag indicates required.

67. A paging method according to Claim 64, wherein one of said paging control channel (PCCH) and said dedicated control channel (DCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates required.

68. A paging method according to Claim 65, wherein one of said paging control channel (PCCH) and said dedicated control channel (DCCH) is used in said paging processing if said search-not-required flag indicates required.

69. A paging method according to Claim 50, wherein said dedicated control channel (DCCH) is used in said paging processing if the connection status between said core network and said radio network controller is connection oriented.

70. A paging method according to Claim 50, wherein said paging command (17) further includes a connection ID for identifying a connection between said radio network controller and a mobile station that is in a communication, so that said paging processing step identifies the connection by said connection ID (24) and performs said paging processing using said dedicated control channel (DCCH) (13).

ABSTRACT

A radio network controller (200) that serves to reduce the amount of processes for searching for a common ID in a paging procedure when performing a paging processing for simultaneously calling a mobile station (300). A search-not-required flag indicating whether or not a search for the common ID is required is added to a message (14' or 15') from a core network (400 or 500). The radio network controller (200) determines whether or not a search for the common ID is required based on the status of the flag and the type of the message (14' or 15') from the core network (400 or 500). A search for the common ID (21) is required if the flag is "OFF," whereas if the flag is "ON" and if the message (15') is paging 1, it is determined that an RRC connection has not been established for the mobile station (300) and thus a search for the common ID is not required in the radio network controller (200).

Title: PAGING SYSTEM
Inventor(s): Nami ISOMAE
Atty. Docket No. 016778-0446

CONVENTIONAL PAGING MESSAGE	
INFORMATION ELEMENTS	COMMON ID
	TMSI
	SELL ID LIST
BETWEEN CORE NET- WORK AND RADIO NETWORK CONTROLLER	CONNECTIONLESS SCCP

FIG. 1

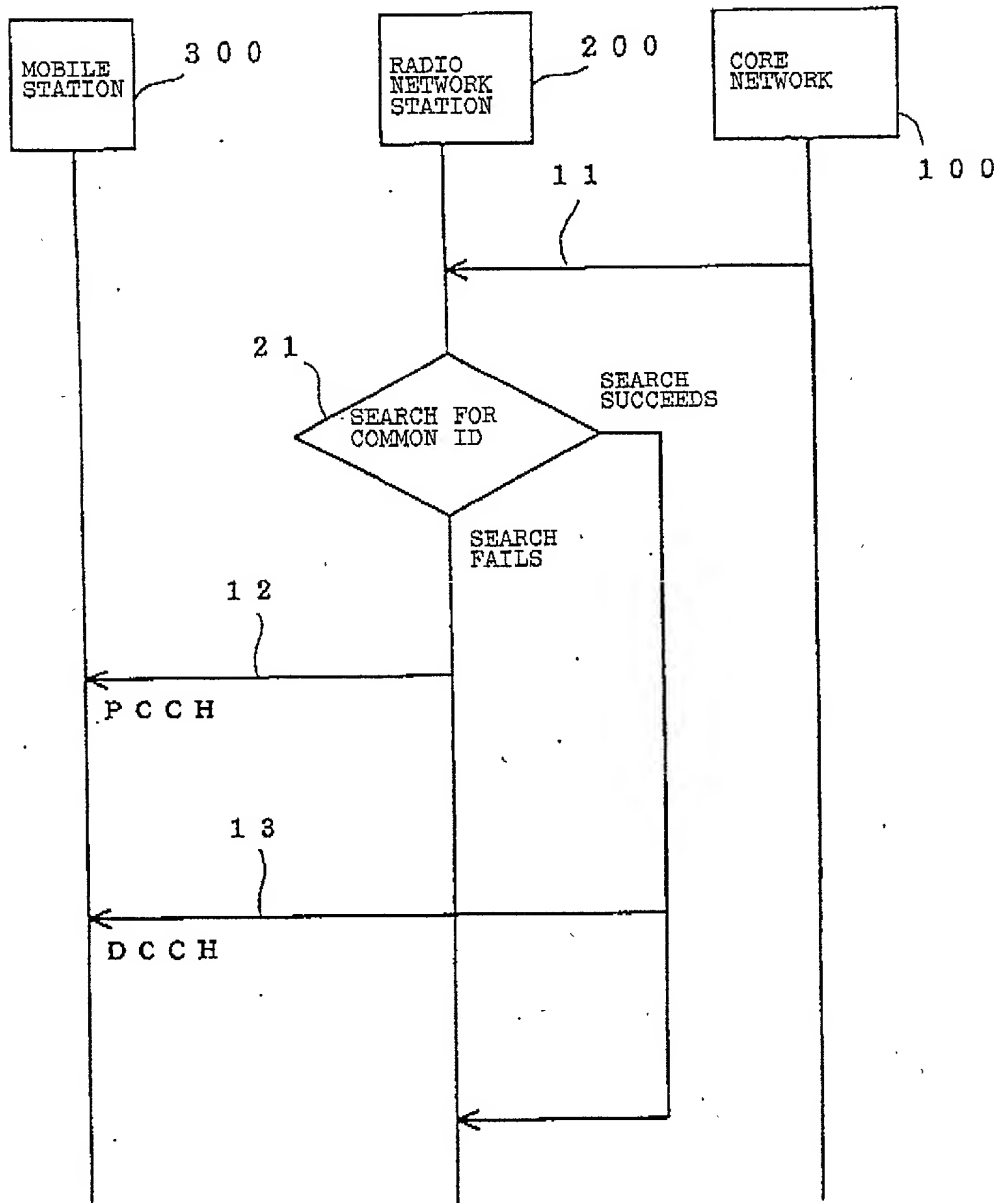


FIG. 2

COMMON ID	PRESENCE/ABSENCE OF RRC CONNECTION
0X00000000	○
0X00000001	×
0X00000002	○
:	
0X11110000	×
0X11110001	○
:	
0Xffffff	×

FIG. 3

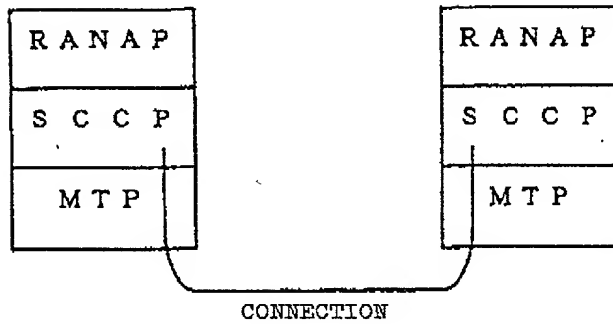


FIG. 4

PAGING 1 MESSAGE	
INFORMATION ELEMENTS	COMMON ID
	TMSI
	CELL ID LIST
	CO-ORDINATION FUNCTION PRESENCE/ABSENCE FLAG
BETWEEN CORE NET- WORK AND RADIO NETWORK CONTROLLER	CONNECTIONLESS SCCP

FIG. 5

PAGING 2 MESSAGE	
INFORMATION ELEMENTS	NONE
BETWEEN CORE NET- WORK AND RADIO NETWORK CONTROLLER	CONNECTIONLESS ORIENTED SCCP

FIG. 6

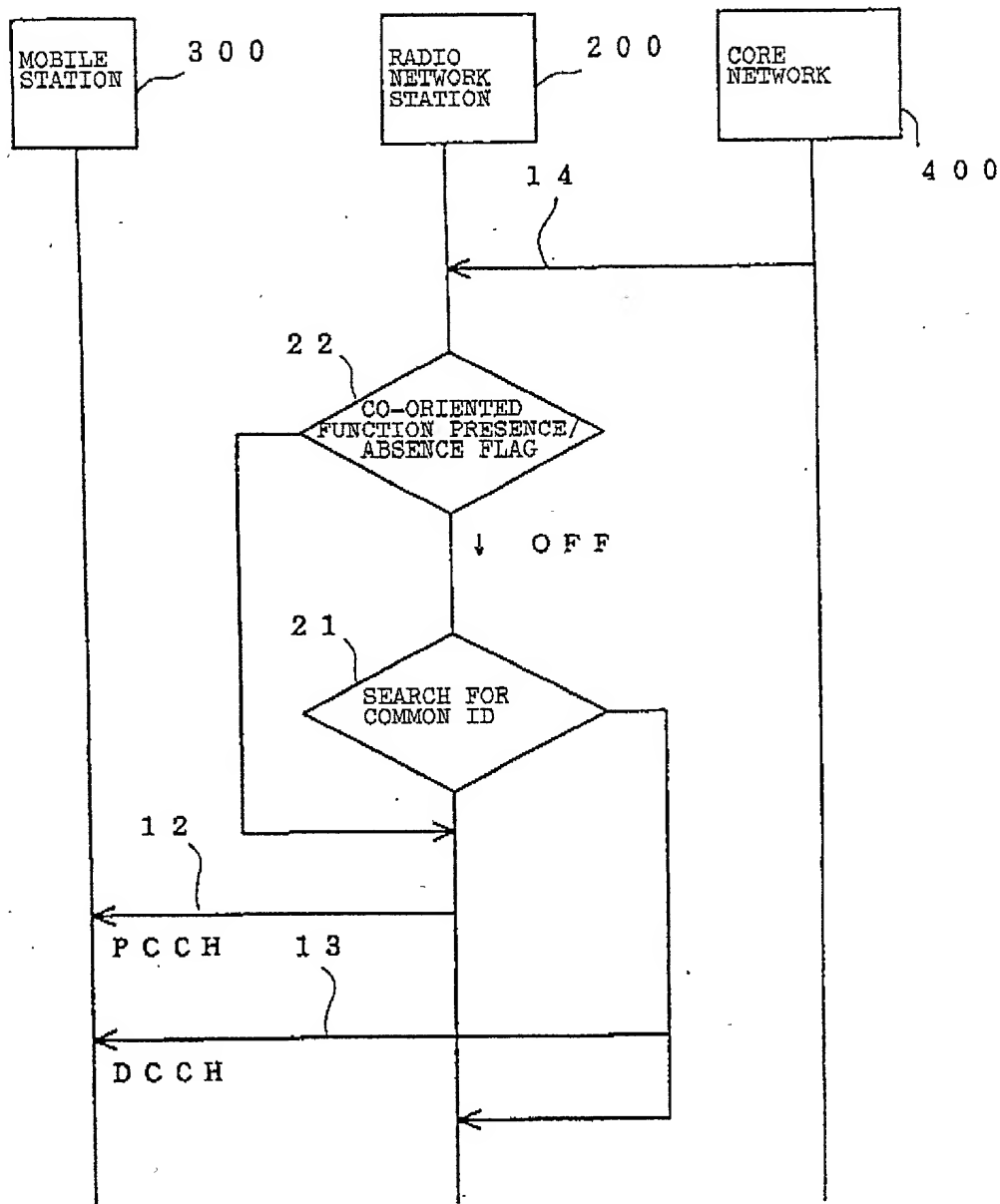


FIG. 7

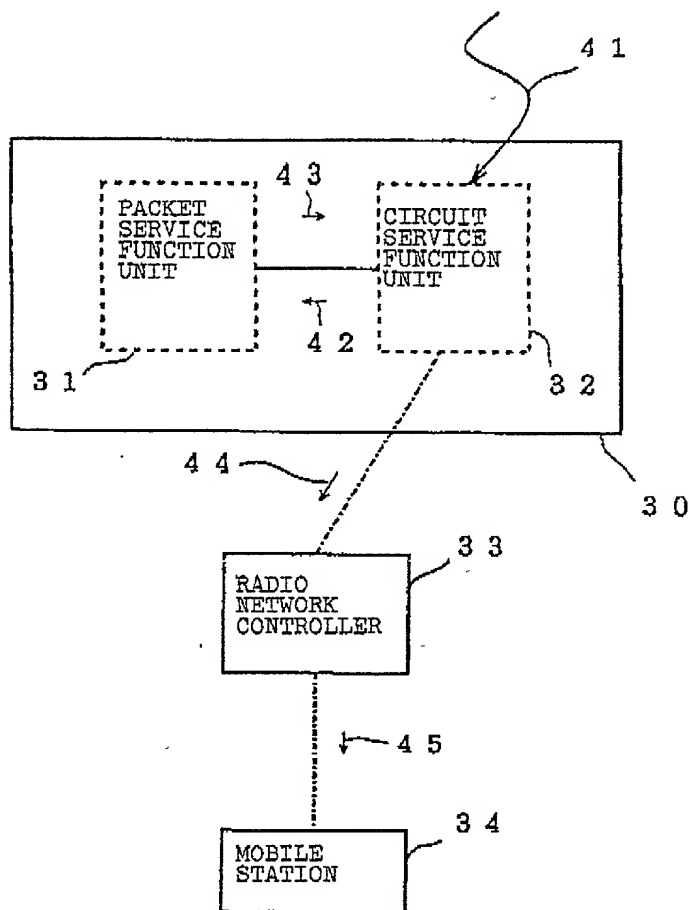


FIG. 8

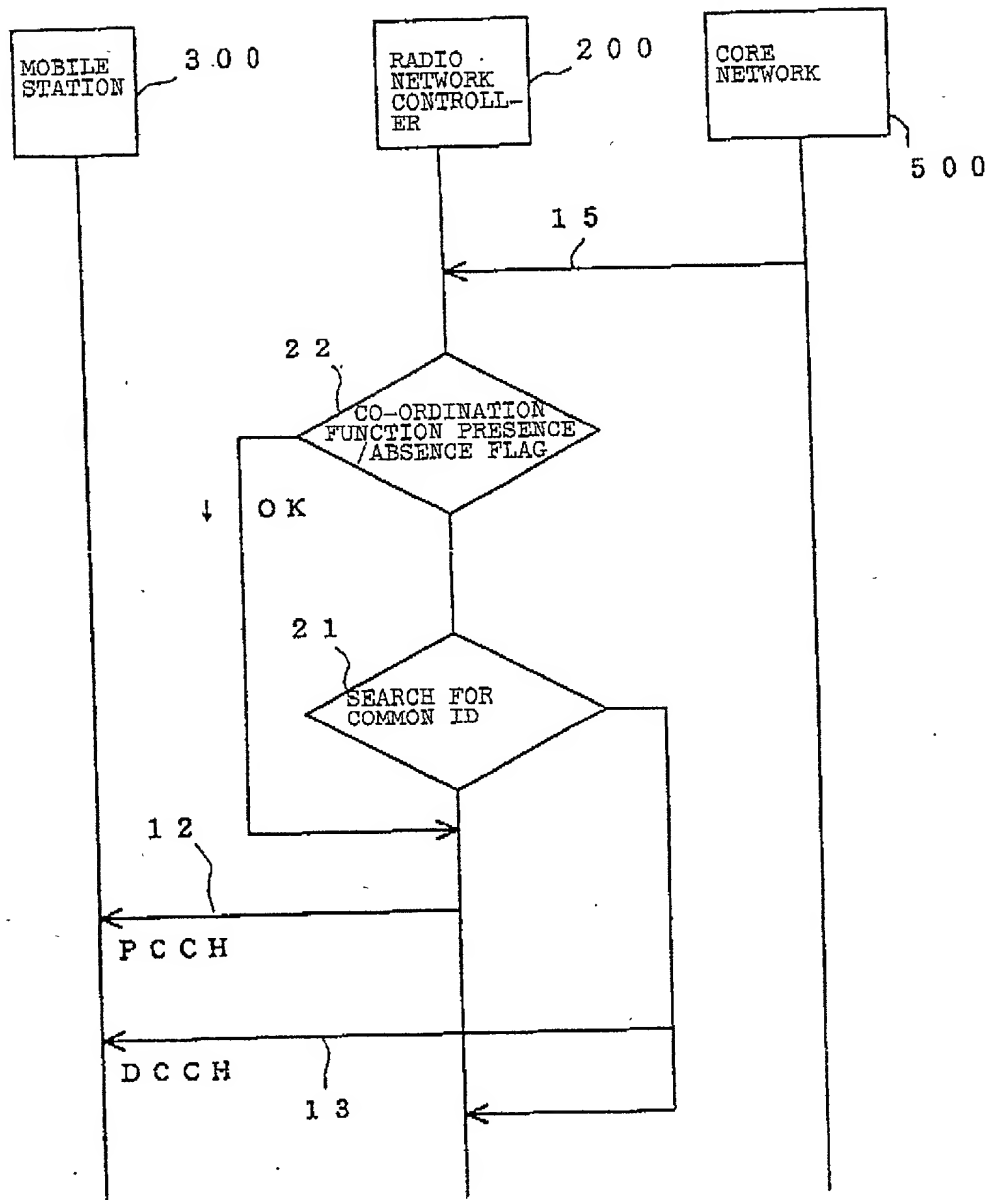


FIG. 9

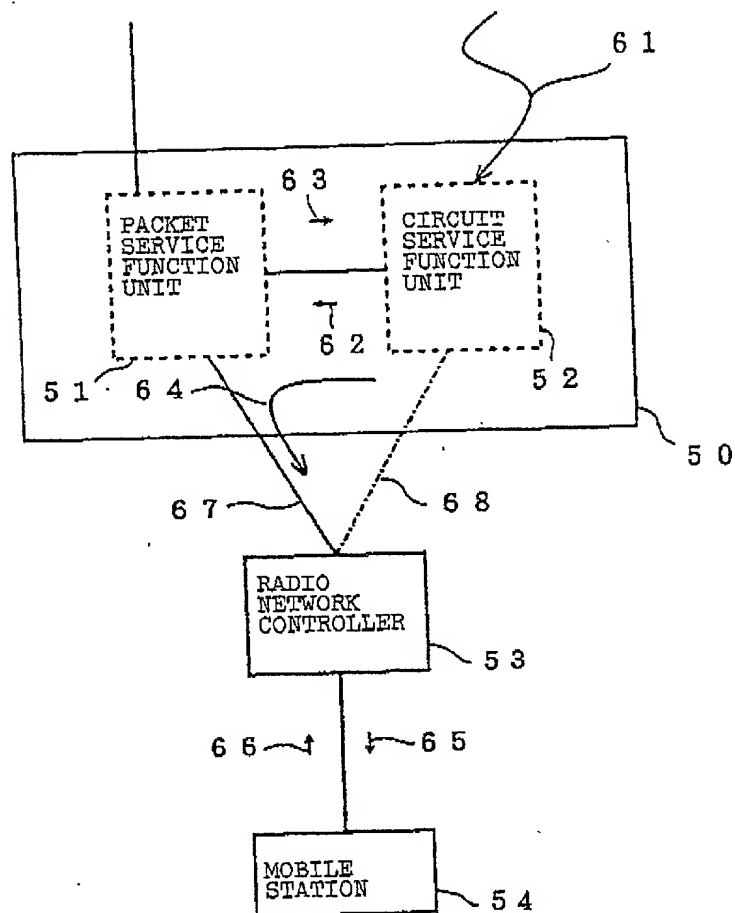


FIG. 10

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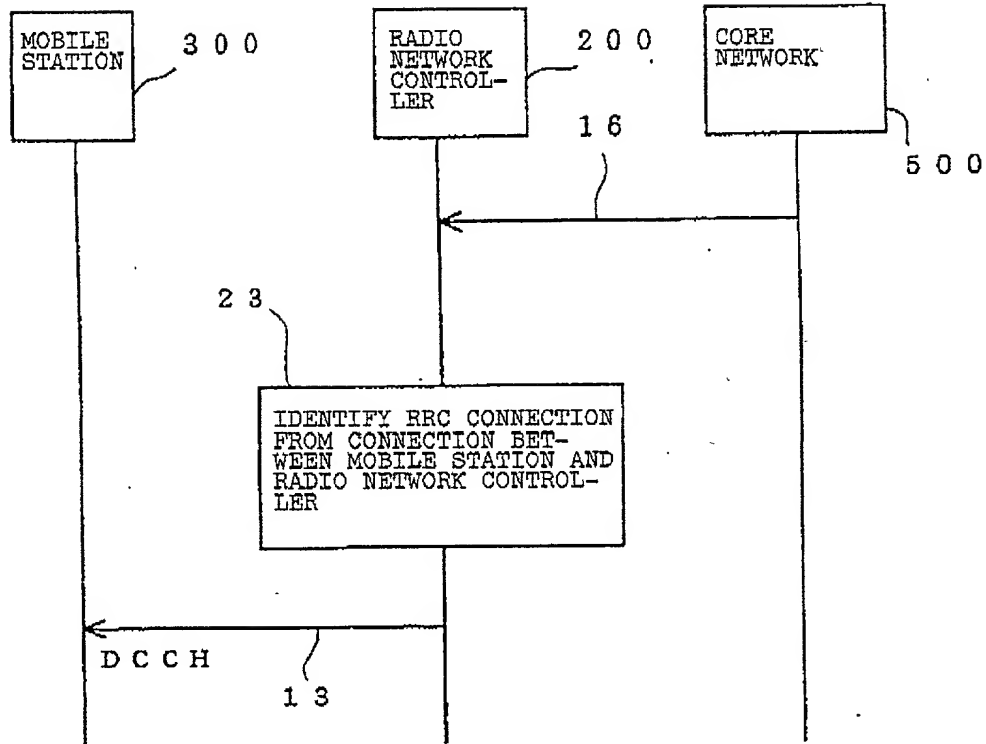


FIG. 11

PAGING 2' MESSAGE	
INFORMATION ELEMENTS	CONNECTION ID
BETWEEN CORE NETWORK AND RADIO NETWORK CONTROLLER	CONNECTIONLESS SCCP

FIG. 12

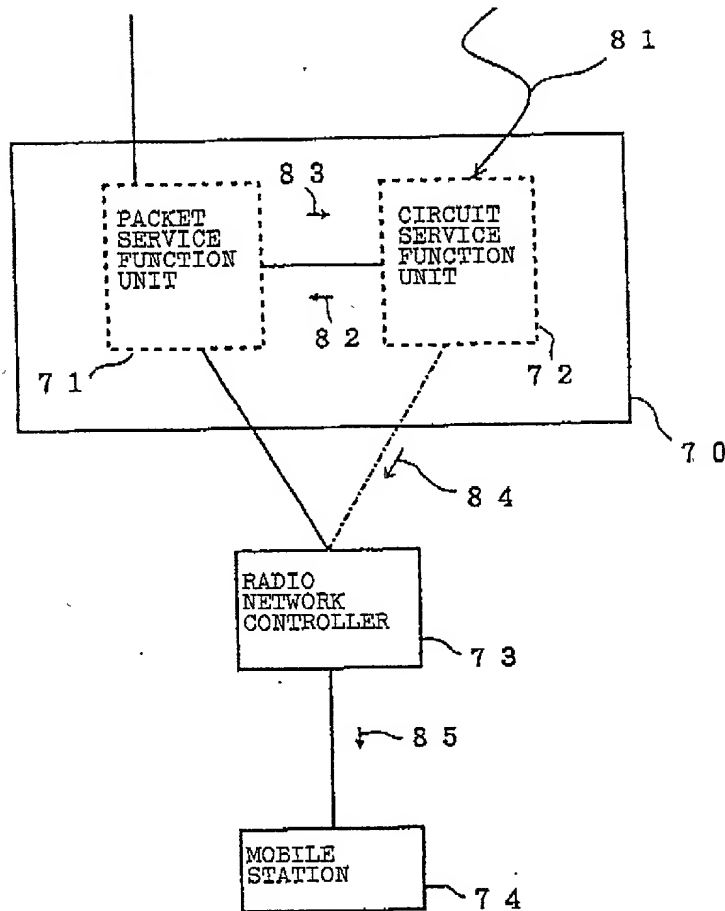


FIG. 13

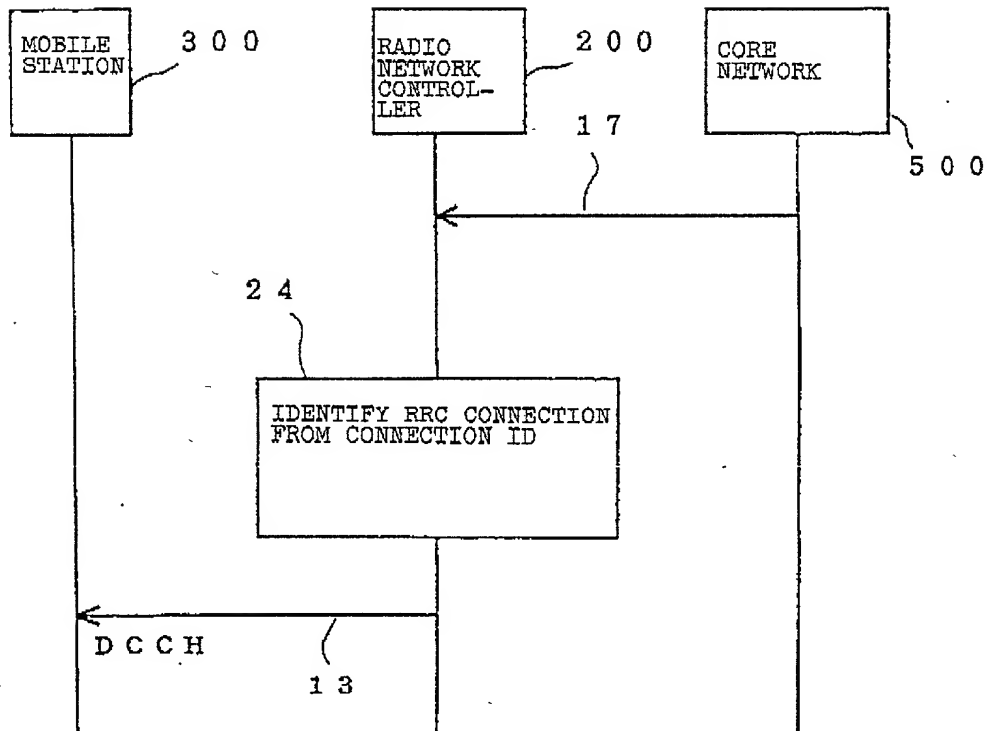


FIG. 14

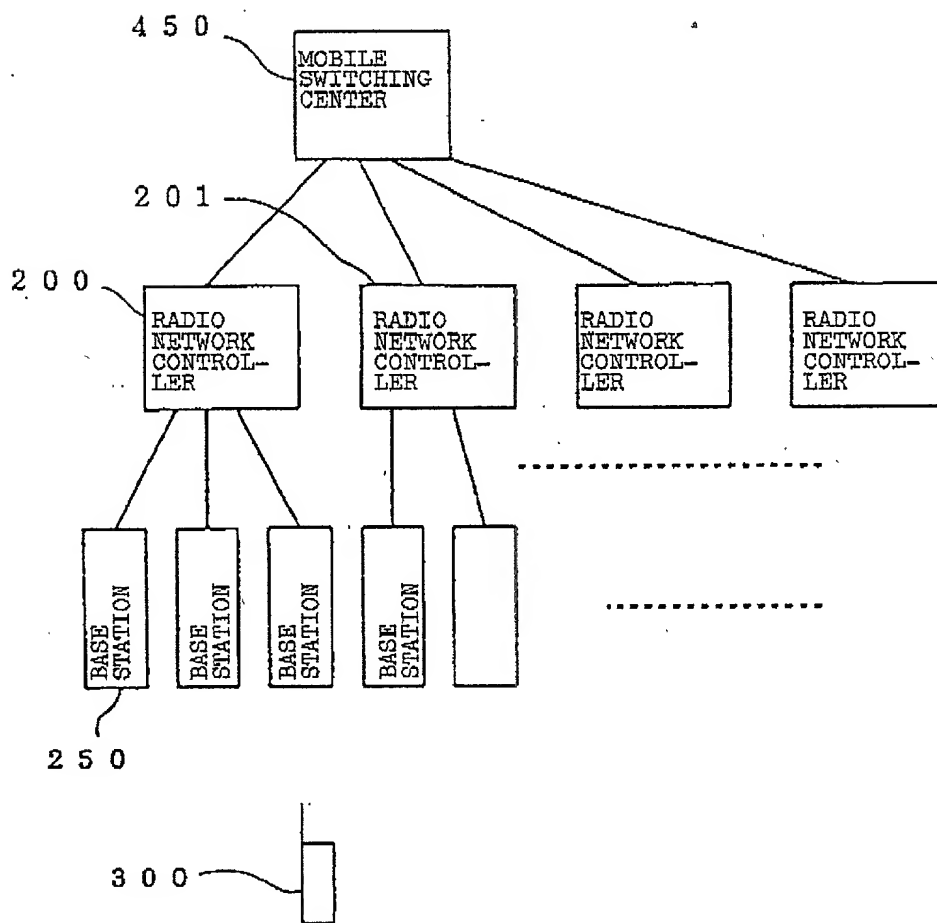


FIG. 15

PAGING 1' MESSAGE	
INFORMATION ELEMENTS	COMMON ID
	TMSI
	CELL ID LIST
	SEARCH-NOT-REQUIRED FLAG
BETWEEN CORE NETWORK AND RADIO NETWORK CONTROLLER	CONNECTIONLESS SCCP

FIG. 16

PAGING 2 MESSAGE	
INFORMATION ELEMENTS	NONE
BETWEEN CORE NET- WORK AND RADIO NETOWRK CONTROLLER	CONNECTION ORIENTED SCCP

FIG. 17

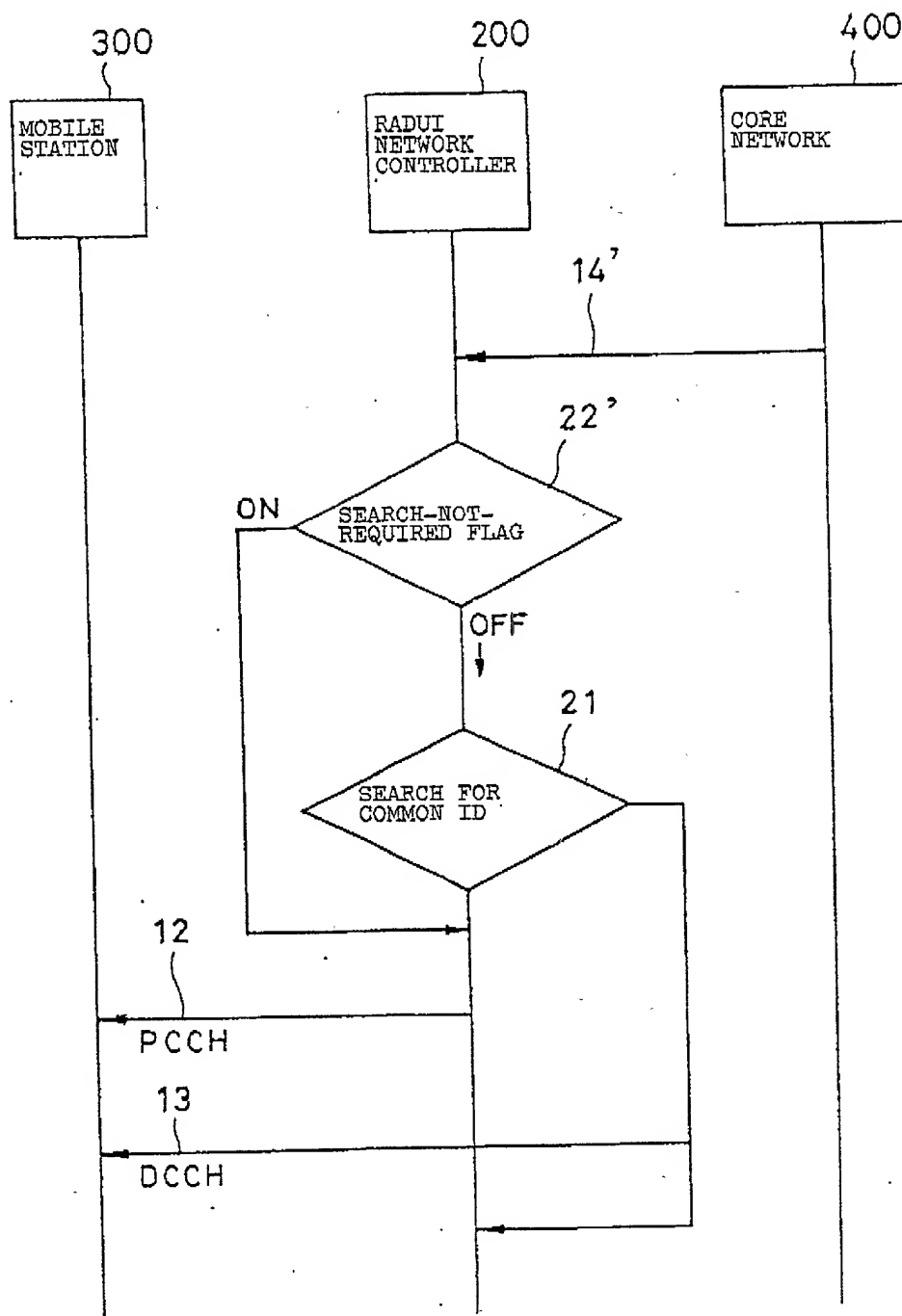


FIG. 18

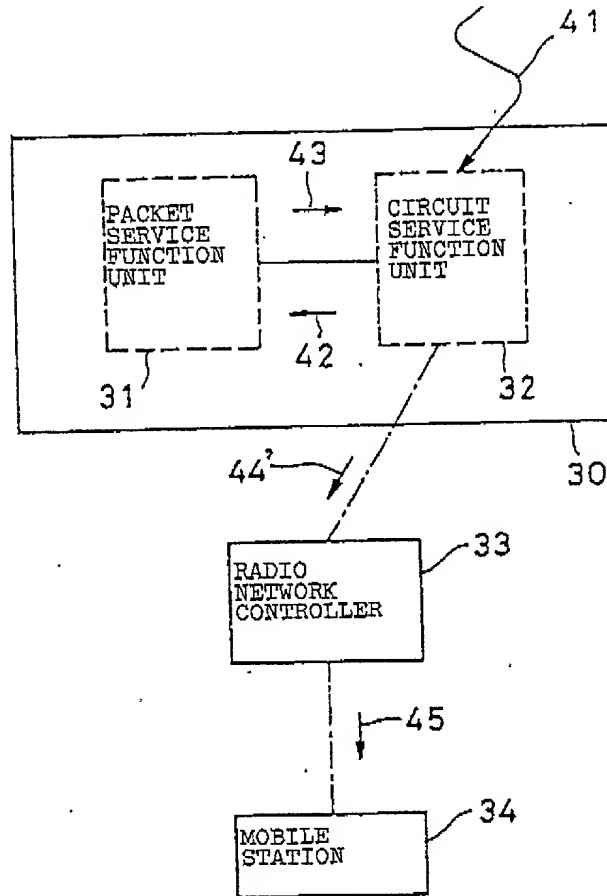


FIG. 19

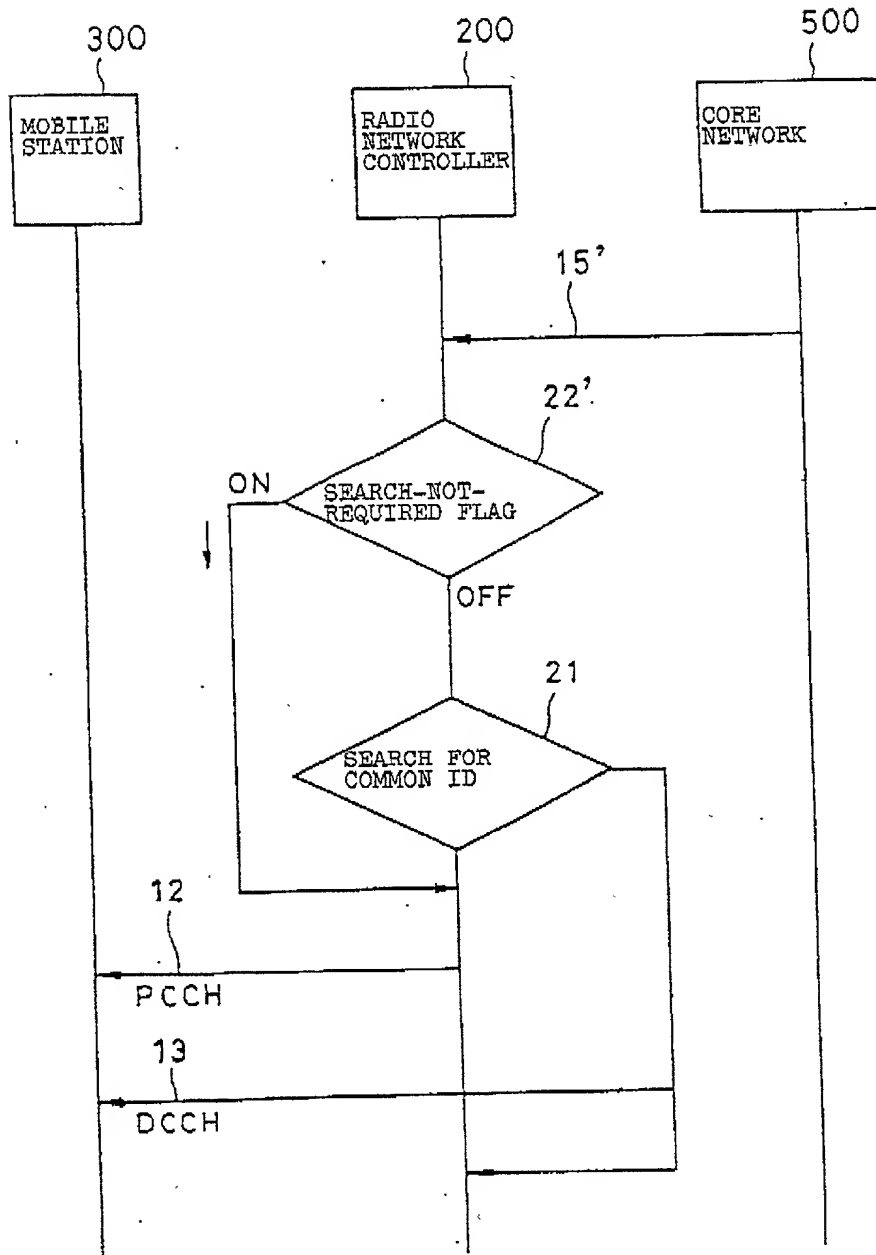


FIG. 20

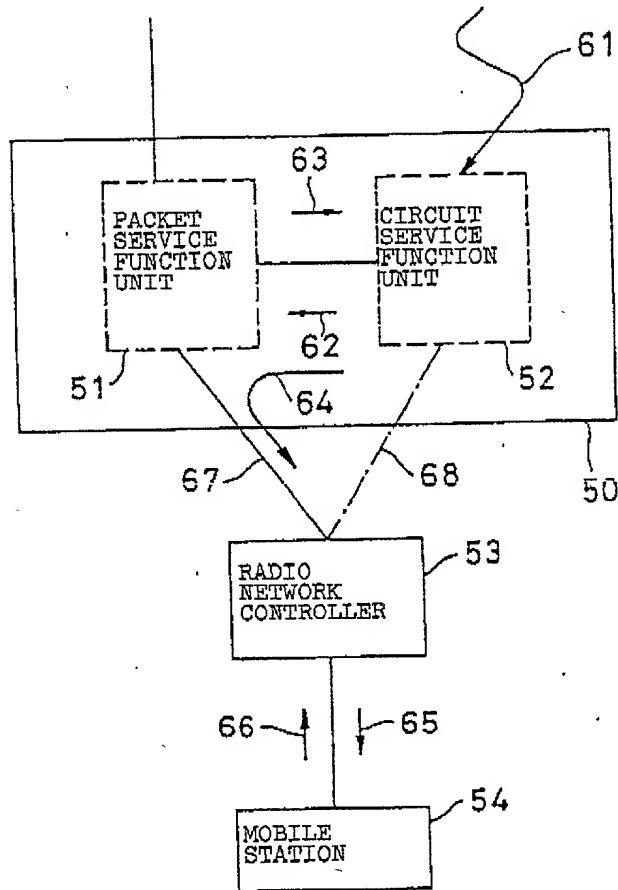


FIG. 21

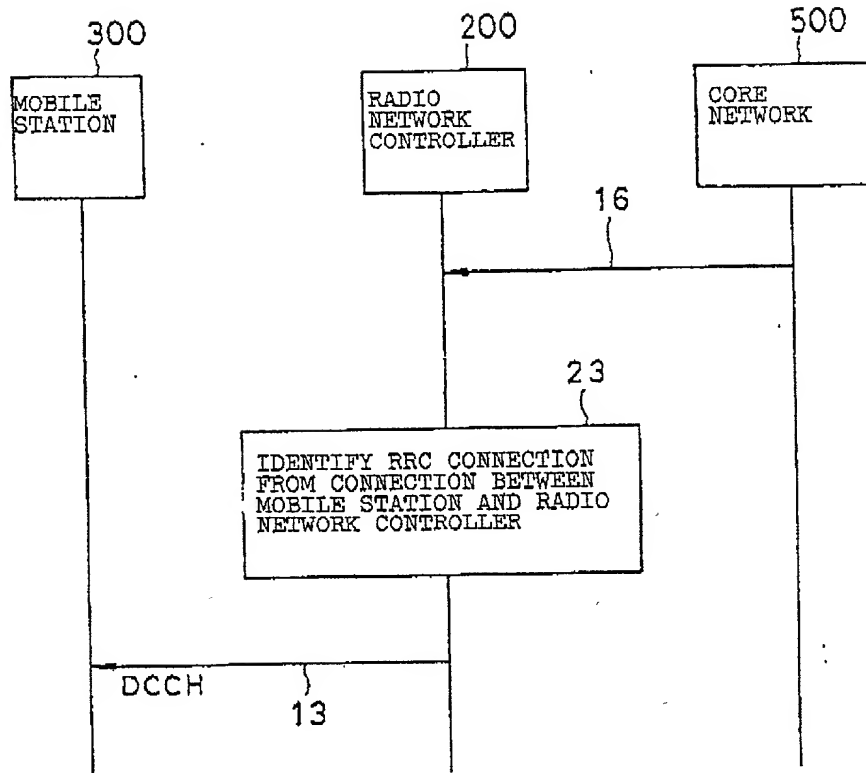


FIG. 22

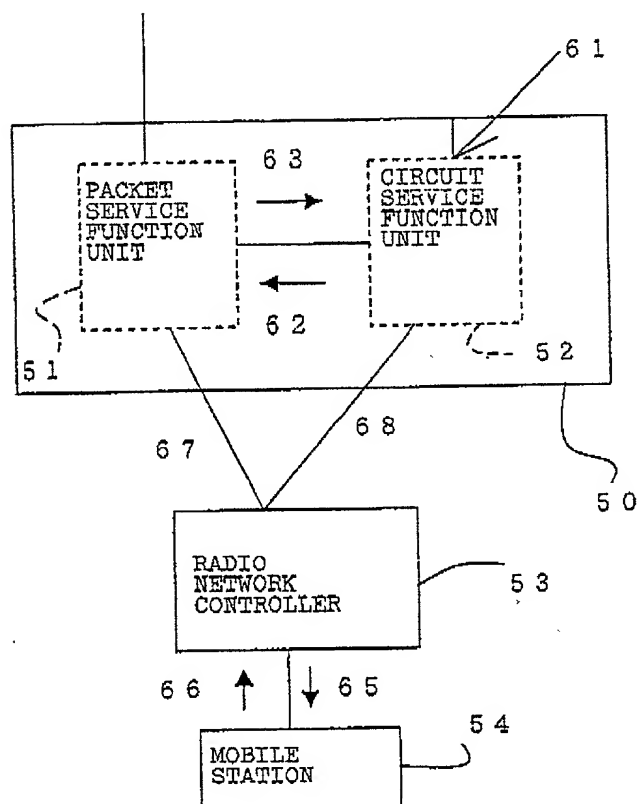


FIG. 23

Title: PAGING SYSTEM
Inventor(s): Nami ISOMAE
Atty. Docket No. 016778-0446

PAGING 2' MESSAGE	
INFORMATION ELEMENTS	CONNECTION ID
BETWEEN CORE NETWORK AND RADIO NETWORK CONTROLLER	CONNECTIONLESS SCCP

FIG. 24

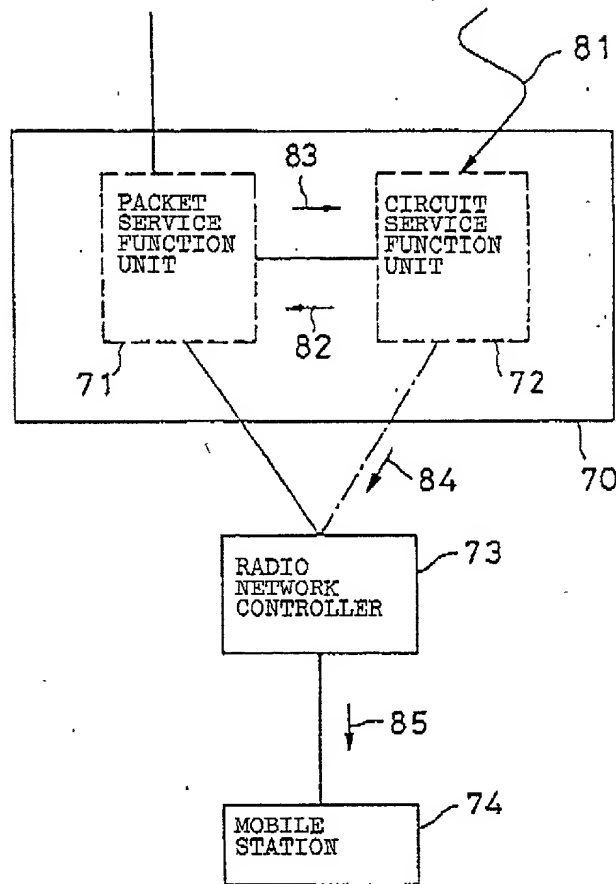


FIG. 25

Title: PAGING SYSTEM
Inventor(s): Nami ISOMAE
Atty. Docket No. 016778-0446

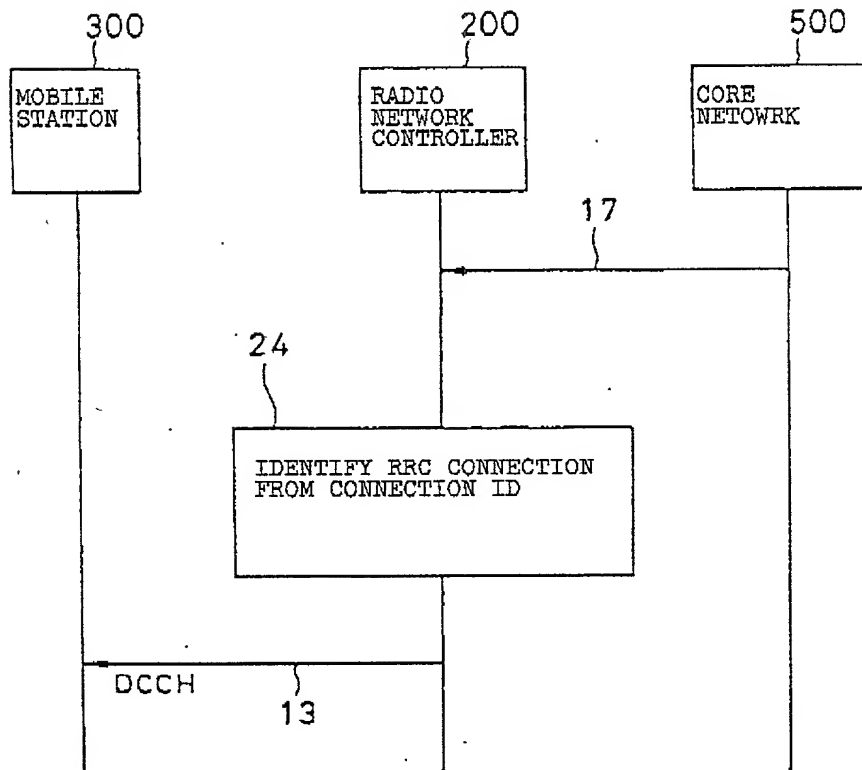


FIG. 26

CASE	CO-ORDINATION FUNCTION	MESSAGE FROM CORE TO BASE STATION	CONNECTION FROM CORE TO BASE STATION	SEARCH-NOT- REQUIRED FLAG	SEARCH FOR COMMON ID	CHANNEL FROM BASE STATION TO MOBILE STATION
1	ABSENT	PAGING 1'	CONNECTION- LESS	OFF	REQUIRED	PAGING CONTROL CHANNEL OR DEDICATED CONTROL CHANNEL
2	PRESENT	PAGING 1'	CONNECTION- LESS	ON	NOT REQUIRED	PAGING CONTROL CHANNEL
3	PRESENT	PAGING 2	CONNECTION ORIENTED		NOT REQUIRED	DEDICATED CONTROL CHANNEL
4	PRESENT	PAGING 2'	CONNECTION- LESS		NOT REQUIRED	DEDICATED CONTROL CHANNEL
5	PRESENT	PAGING 1'	CONNECTION- LESS	OFF	REQUIRED	DEDICATED CONTROL CHANNEL

FIG. 27

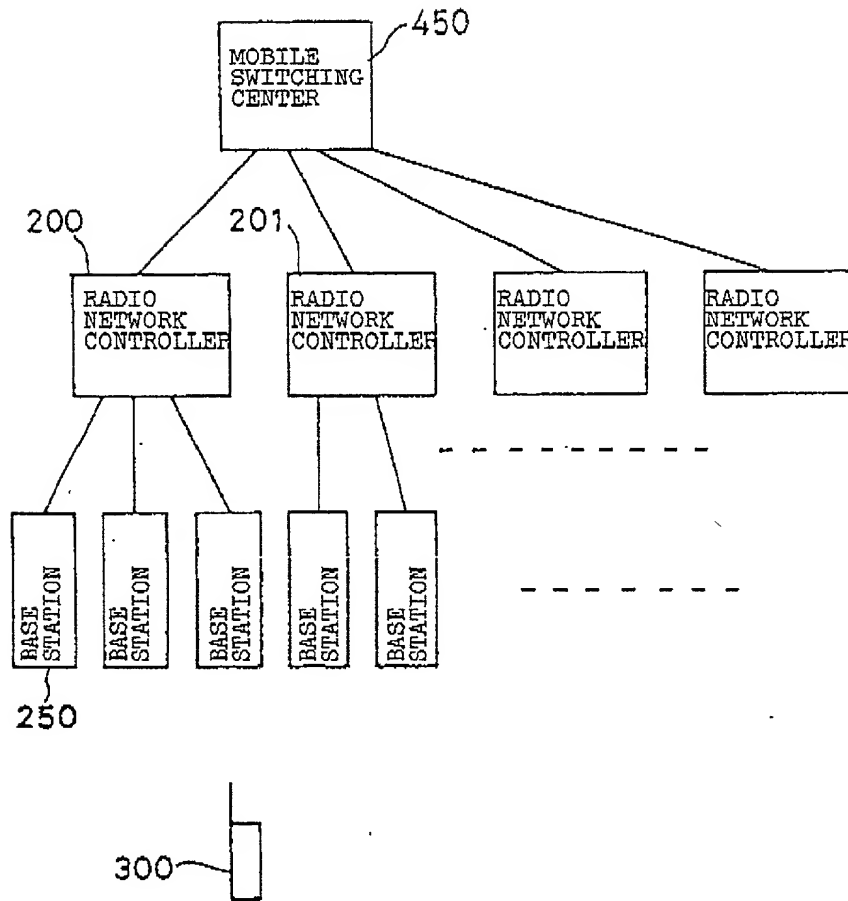


FIG. 28

WN-2224(P)

11-253725

533-10313

Attorney Docket No. _____

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I HEREBY DECLARE:

THAT my residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

THAT I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one inventor is named below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below or in an attached Declaration) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

PAGING SYSTEM

the specification of which (check one)

_____ is attached hereto.

 x was filed on 9/8/2000 as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number PCT/JP00/06149 and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

THAT I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was ever known or used by others in the United States of America, or was patented or described in any printed publication in any country, before I (we) invented it;

THAT I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was patented or described in any printed publication in any country, or in public use or on sale in the United States of America, for more than one year prior to the filing date of this United States application;

THAT I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was first patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate that issued in any country foreign to the United States of America before the filing date of this United States application if the foreign application was filed by me (us), or by my (our) legal representatives or assigns, more than twelve months (six months for design patents) prior to the filing date of this United States application;

THAT I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above;

THAT I believe that the above-identified specification contains a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is

Attorney Docket No. _____

most nearly connected, to make and use the invention, and sets forth the best mode contemplated by me of carrying out the invention; and

THAT I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I HEREBY CLAIM foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number	Country	Foreign Filing Date	Priority Claimed?	Certified Copy Attached?
11-253725	Japan	September 8, 1999	yes	
2000-146713	Japan	May 18, 2000	yes	

I HEREBY CLAIM the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

U.S. Provisional Application Number	Filing Date

I HEREBY CLAIM the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

Attorney Docket No. _____

U.S. Parent Application Number	PCT Parent Application Number	Parent Filing Date	Parent Patent Number

I HEREBY APPOINT the following registered attorneys and agents of the law firm of FOLEY & LARDNER to have full power to prosecute this application and any continuations, divisions, reissues, and reexaminations thereof, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT the foregoing attorneys and agents appointed by me to prosecute this application do not personally represent me or my legal interests, but instead represent the interests of the legal owner(s) of the invention described in this application.

Attorney Docket No. _____

I FURTHER DECLARE THAT all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Name of first inventor

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Inventor's signature

Nami Isomae

Date

March 6, 2002

Name of second inventor

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

Inventor's signature

Date

Name of third inventor

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

Inventor's signature

Date

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